

In the Claims

Claims 1-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended) A process for solids suspension and dosing of a granular, grain or powder type of solid material in a high-pressure process, using essentially a supercritical fluid as process fluid, said process being a suspension step which is part of a high-pressure process and consisting of a suspension vessel and a device for circulation of the liquid as well as for feed and discharge operations,

- solid material and a fluid ~~being~~ are fed to the suspension vessel and the ~~said~~ fluid ~~being~~ is a liquefied gas,
- the solid material becoming suspended in the fluid with the aid of ~~the~~ a device for agitating the liquid, thus keeping the solids in suspension, wherein
- the pressure applied in the suspension step is $< 90\%$ of the critical pressure of the process fluid, a gaseous phase blanketing the liquid phase in the suspension vessel,
- and in a last step the suspension is conveyed by a pump into the high-pressure process.

Claim 13 (currently amended) A process according to Claim 12, wherein the process comprises a feed cycle and the pressure in the suspension vessel is essentially stabilized during the feed cycle to the high-pressure process by admitting solids free gas.

Claim 14 (previously presented) A process according to Claim 12, wherein the device for circulation of the fluid in the vessel comprises an agitator mounted in the vessel.

Claim 15 (currently amended) A process according to Claim 12, wherein the device for agitating the liquid comprises a pump connected to the suspension vessel via an intake and delivery line and part of the suspension ~~inventory~~ is constantly circulated in a cycle.

Claim 16 (previously presented) A process according to Claim 12, wherein the fluid in the suspension vessel is essentially identical chemically with the high-pressure process fluid.

Claim 17 (previously presented) A process according to Claim 12, wherein that further non-solid feedstock is added to the fluid.

Claim 18 (currently amended) A process according to Claim ~~[[12]]~~ 13, wherein the pressure applied in the suspension tank during the feed cycle to the high pressure process is maintained constant by adding gas in the gaseous state.

Claim 19 (currently amended) A process according to Claim ~~[[12]]~~ 13, wherein the suspension is permanently stabilized during the suspension feed cycle to the high-pressure process by means of the liquid agitating device.

Claim 20 (currently amended) A process according to Claim 12, wherein the ~~input~~ employed solid material is a fluid to be dissolved in the high-pressure process.

Claim 21 (currently amended) A process according to Claim ~~[[12]]~~ 13, further comprising a vessel discharge cycle, and wherein the suspension feed cycle ~~operation~~ to the high-pressure process is run in a continuous mode during the vessel discharge cycle, the volume feed rate being either even or variable so that the concentration in the suspension vessel is essentially kept constant.

Claim 22 (currently amended) A process according to Claim 12, wherein the suspended material comprises a suspension stream which ~~the suspension stream~~ is adjusted at the admixture to the high-pressure process in such a manner that the ratio of the volumetric streams of suspension and high-pressure fluid is 1 : 50.

Claim 23 (previously presented) A process according to Claim 12, wherein the pressure applied in the suspension step is < 60 bars.

Claim 24 (currently amended) A process according to Claim 17, wherein the further non-solid ~~feestock~~ feedstock comprises: H_2O or cyclic and acyclic short-chain hydrocarbons or short-chain alcohols, aldehydes or ketones as well as mixtures thereof.

Claim 25 (currently amended) A process according to Claim 20, wherein the ~~input~~ employed solid material comprises: color pigments, bonding agents, bleaching agents, aromatic fluids, scent extracts or mixtures thereof.

Claim 26 (currently amended) A process according to Claim 22, wherein the ratio of ~~the~~ volumetric streams of suspension and high pressure fluid is $\leq 1:100$.